

Commonwealth Center for Children & Adolescents  
Staunton VA  
**LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE**  
**12/15/09**

**DRAFT**

*The November 2009 meeting was cancelled.*

Present: Wendy Young, Chair  
Susan Richardson, Member  
Joe Tuell, CCCA Facility Director  
Joann Shoemaker, *Affiliate: Family Pres. Svcs.*  
Taylor Davis, *Affiliate: Liberty Point*  
Greg Czyszczon, *Affiliate: Crossroads Counseling*  
Nancy Armstrong, *Affiliate: VSDB*  
Kim Lindblad, *Affiliate: Specialized Youth Svcs.*  
Doris Moore, *Affiliate: People Places-Charlottesville*  
Jenny Heilborn, VOPA

Paul Krikau, Vice Chair  
Mark Seymour, DBHDS/Advocate  
Pam White, CCCA LHRC Liaison  
Wendy Little, *Affiliate: Intercept Youth Svcs.*  
Michael Hamilton, *Affiliate: Liberty Point*  
Jim Collins, *Affiliate: Minnick Education Center*  
Rebecca Plesko-Dubois, *Affiliate: VSDB*  
Steve Jurentkuff, *Affiliate: Specialized Youth Svcs*  
Oliver Agee, *Affiliate: Natl. Counseling Group, Inc.,-Staunton*

Absent: Jim Strock, Secretary

Minutes Prepared by: Pamela White, CCCA Liaison

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Strock, Secretary

CURRENT AGENDA	FUTURE AGENDA
1. Call to Order; Review of Minutes	1. Call to Order; Review of Minutes
2. General: Affiliated Programs	2. General: Affiliated Programs
3. Advocate's Report	3. Advocate's Report
4. CCCA Facility Director's Report	4. CCCA Facility Director's Report
5. Adjourn	5. <b>The next regular CCCA LHRC meeting has been scheduled for 01/19/10@ 6:00pm.</b>

1. Wendy Young-Chair called the meeting to order with round table introductions of all present and a review of the CCCA LHRC minutes of 09/15/09.

Action: The CCCA LHRC minutes of 09/19/09 were approved as presented.

2. **General Information** from the affiliated programs presented:
  - a. *Liberty Point*-Taylor Davis introduced new staff Michael Hamilton, who gave a brief overview of his background and interest in children's services. Mr. Taylor added that tentatively groundbreaking for the program's new educational building was planned for mid-January 2010.
  - b. *People Places/Charlottesville*-Doris Moore stated that the program had just gone through the licensure regulations and is optimistic about the process.
  - c. *VSDB*-Nancy Armstrong announced that groundbreaking for the new Student Center and renovations is scheduled for mid-January 2010.
  - d. *Shenandoah House/Intercept*-Wendy Little reported that recent improvements have included new windows.
  - e. *Minnick Education Center*-Jim Collins announced that the severe and profound program had opened and that the program was planning for expansions to include \$65,000 for a playground and equipment.
  - f. *National Counselling Grou, Inc./Staunton*-Oliver Agee commented that while the Staunton program was just getting started, the Harrisonburg program was strong.
3. Mark Seymour-DBHDS/Advocate presented his Advocate's Report, with due deference to the \$3.5 billion shortfall in the State budget and its impact on services. He stated that work was ongoing to establish another child-focused LHRC and that human rights coverage was being triaged between himself and Chuck Collins-DBHDS/Advocate. Mr. Seymour commented that it was likely a new Health & Human Services Secretary and as well as a new DBHDS Commissioner could be appointed with the change in Governors in January. He added that plans for the \$120 million replacement facility for Western State Hospital were moving forward.

4. Joe Tuell-Facility Director presented the Director's Report, providing a recap of the previous year beginning with the Governor's December 2008 closure announcement due to the State budget shortfalls. The Center remained open through the reinstatement of funds by the General Assembly the Spring 2009. Immediately following reinstatement, the Center had its on-site accreditation review by The Joint Commission (TJC) and was found to be in good standing. CCCA has continued to work towards a reduction in the usage of seclusion and restraint and has been active in grant-sponsored activities, including hiring an outreach coordinator and peer counselors. Mr. Tuell added that admissions have continued to be steady, with residential resources very scarce. The Center itself has taken its share of budget cuts as well and has lost several critical positions in operations, with responsibilities absorbed as possible. On 11/04/09, the Center had a water main break which resulted in an emergency evacuation to buildings on the grounds of nearby Western State Hospital. The Center was without power, telephones, and boilers as well as the emergency generator. He summarized the event, commending the teamwork of both WSH and CCCA staff to make the transition as smooth as possible for patients. He stated that the Center reopened for admissions within days and was back on track with school/education instruction in place, although in many instances there may be several classes in one room. Mr. Tuell commented that hopes were that the Center could move back to its original building by January 2010.

Mr. Seymour commented that thanks to the extraordinary efforts of all involved, the emergency moves and process appeared seamless.

Action: The CCCA LHRC commended the staff of the Center, noting the outstanding circumstances of the past year and the resilience of staff while continuing to care for Virginia's youth in crisis.

5. Steve Jurentkuff-Affiliate: *Specialized Youth Svcs* the motion was made and seconded to go into a closed session pursuant to VA Code §2.2-3711, for the purpose of discussing matters excluded from the Freedom of Information Act and protecting patient confidentiality.

Upon reconvening in open session, the CCCA LHRC certified that to the best of each member knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempt from statutory open meeting requirements, and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the closed session were discussed in the closed session.

Action: The CCCA LHRC thanked Mr. Jurentkuff and staff Kim Lindblad for providing specific information regarding the current status of the program.

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